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APPROVED BY: NEA/P:GSULLIVAN

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1) INFORM CONSULS-PASS PAOS-MILITARY ALSO FOR POLAD 2) EMBASSY LONDON PLEASE PASS TO POLITICAL OFFICER ETHAN A. GOLDRICH 3) EMBASSY LONDON PLEASE PASS TO MOC DIRECTOR LIZ MCKUNE 4) EMBASSY BAGHDAD PLEASE PASS TO PAO RICHARD SCHMIERER 5) EMBASSY DJIBOUTI PLEASE PASS TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER TIFFANY M. BARTISH

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: IS, KPAO, OPRC, PREL, XF

SUBJECT: NEA PRESS GUIDANCE 8/4/05

THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED FOR POST'S INFORMATION:

1) ISRAEL/PALESTINIANS: PIJ/James Wolfensohn and General

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 27 FEB 2009 200706444

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Ward

Q: Do you have a reaction to reports that the Palestine Islamic Jihad says more rockets attacks on Israel?

-- We've seen the reports. What we would like to see is progress on the ground and action behind words. We remain skeptical of PIJ,s intentions) they have killed hundreds of innocent civilians and have harmed the Palestinians, aspirations for statehood.

-- Ultimately, we believe that democracy and the rule of law cannot flourish if you have groups and organizations committed to violence outside that framework. The PA needs to continue to take steps to bring an end to the violence and terror.

Q: Do you have an update on the activities of General Ward and Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement, Mr. James Wolfensohn?

-- Mr. Wolfensohn and General Ward are in the region now.

-- Given Israel,s imminent disengagement from Gaza and parts of the West Bank and the need for effective security coordination, it is expected that General Ward and Mr. Wolfensohn will continue their contacts with both the Palestinian Authority and Israel on matters of disengagement.

-- The U.S. remains in close contact with both parties and others in the international community regarding disengagement.

2) ISRAEL/PALESTINIANS: West Bank Settlements

Q: Do you have any reaction to Israel issuing tenders for construction of new housing in the West Bank town of Beitar Ilit?

-- We have seen the reports and are seeking clarification.

-- We have been very clear about Israeli obligations under the roadmap.

3) YEMEN/JORDAN/INDONESIA: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ALLEGES 2 YEMENI MEN HELD IN SECRET U.S. FACILITIES

Q: What comment do you have regarding allegations from Amnesty International that two Yemeni men were tortured and held incommunicado for more than a year in "secret" U.S. facilities in Jordan and Indonesia? If you cannot address

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specifics, can you confirm that the U.S. has such detention facilities outside the U.S.?

-- For obvious reasons, I cannot get into a discussion regarding specific actions taken regarding suspects involved in terrorist actions.

-- However, I want to underscore that the U.S. does not maintain "secret facilities" for the detention of terrorist suspects.

-- Regarding the charges of torture, the United States does not sanction the use of torture with detainees, and our efforts to ensure the appropriate handling of these detainees have been well-documented.

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